

transmitting the second light signal; and
converting the transmitted second light signal to an electrical input
signal for the controller to cause the controller to perform a task corresponding to
the remote circuit electrical output signal;

wherein the first and second light signals are optically coupled over a
signal optical channel.

Conceded B1
Please amend claims 61 and 67 as follows:

B2
61. (Twice amended) The method of claim 62, wherein power is
generated by the first light signal impinging a photovoltaic cell.

B3
67. (Twice amended) The method of claim 62, wherein the first light
signal is transmitted over a first optical channel and the second light signal is
transmitted over a second optical channel.

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesies
extended by Examiners Thomas and Kim during the telephonic interview conducted
November 5, 2002. Unfortunately, agreement was not reached regarding the
allowability of the claims discussed.

Claims 1-19, 60-69, and 71-73 remain pending following Applicant's election
in Paper No. 8. All of these claims are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)
as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,796,890 to Tsuji et al. ("Tsuji") 1 in
view of U.S. Patent No. 5,206,894 to Makrinos et al. ("Makrinos"). Independent
claims 60 and 72 have been cancelled. Regarding independent claims 1, 71, and
73, the Examiner asserts that Tsuji discloses everything recited in the claims except
"an input being generated by a user of a remote isolated circuit," which is disclosed
in Makrinos in the form of a hand-held remote control 12. According to the
Examiner,

"[i]t would have been obvious to modify the apparatus of
Tsuji et al. wherein a user of the remote isolated circuit
generates the input. One would have been motivated to
make such a modification so that the apparatus could be
instructed to perform a task from a distance, thereby

¹ It should be pointed out that the previous rejection of these claims was based on the parent of Tsuji (i.e., U.S. Patent No. 5,664,035; hereinafter, "Tsuji '035"), and that the Examiner's citations to components corresponding to claim elements corresponds in certain cases to reference designations included in Tsuji '035, not Tsuji '890. For purposes of this rejection, Applicant treats the Tsuji patents as a single disclosure. Unless otherwise indicated, all citations are to Tsuji '890.